

COLUMBIA HIGHWAY TRIP SEPT. 6—TICKETS ON SALE AT ACCOMMODATION DESK

CURRIER CONFESSES BURNING BUILDINGS

Suspected 'Arson King' Owns Up to Destroying Many Houses in Portland.

OTHER MEN IMPLICATED

Insurance Frauds Are Termed Easy. Deputy District Attorney Says Companies Are Blameable and Delay Evidence.

Samford W. Currier confessed yesterday that he has, for the past 10 years, made a fairly profitable business of building houses, partly furnishing them, setting fire to them, and collecting the insurance.

The operation of himself and seven or eight accomplices whose names are being withheld by District Attorney Evans' deputies, extended from Texas to Washington.

When he finished making his statement to Charles W. Robison, Deputy District Attorney, Currier had admitted his personal responsibility for at least six fires in Portland, and said he must have fired about 25 buildings in all.

"I first saw this thing done in California about 10 years ago," Currier said. "A man told me about it and not long afterward I tried it myself. I worked so well that I kept it up. The insurance companies were easy. They were always anxious to insure anything and we had to fight them off. Lots of times we built just the shell of a house and burned it before finishing it completely."

Mrs. Bertha Currier, his divorced wife, visited him in the County Jail yesterday and talked to him for some time before the confession was made. Finally Currier indicated that he wished to talk to Mr. Robison.

Prisoner Confesses Arson.

"I guess you have the stuff on me all right," he said. "My wife and I have talked it over and I've decided the best thing to do is to tell you all about it. I'll tell you all I know."

It took nearly two hours to tell it all, with a stenographer, Mr. Robison, Mrs. Marshall Jay Stevens and Mrs. Currier listening intently. Currier told his story easily, but stopped frequently when his memory was not clear on some point. Frequently Mrs. Currier corrected him.

Currier admitted that he burned the following houses: November 12, 1912, residence at Fifth avenue and Maybree street; January 21, 1912, residence in McKinley Addition; October 27, 1912, house in Montrose Addition, Lents; February 5, 1913, house at East Eighty-ninth and Burnside streets; his own residence at 848 East Fifth street, North, some time in 1913; August 30, 1914, Third and Beach avenues, Lents.

These are some of the more recent fires. Currier took of setting other fires as far back as 10 years ago. He was explaining rather hesitatingly what he had told the insurance company when he burned one of the houses, when Mrs. Currier interrupted him.

Wife Urges Truth.

"Now, Dad," she said, "if you can't tell the truth you'd better keep your mouth shut."

Currier flushed slightly and changed a few of the details in his story. Deputy District Attorney Robison would not release the entire confession for publication yesterday.

Currier confirmed our evidence as to the inflammable material used," said Robison. "He said he used a mixture of turpentine, kerosene oil and varnish. The turpentine formed the explosive gas, the kerosene oil made the base of the burning material, and the varnish furnished a flash to assure a quick blaze and a hot one."

"We can't tell the names of the men Currier implicated just yet. None of them are in Portland and none of them are under arrest, and we want to advise the authorities in the different cities before we tell where they are."

"I'm going to start all over again and try to live this down," said Currier yesterday afternoon. "I want to tell it all, get it all out of my system, and take every sentence is coming to me, and try to start over again."

Currier is 44 years old.

Insurance Companies Blamed.

Insurance companies are blamed by Deputy Robison for much of the trouble, and their actions since the "arson king" disclosures have aroused the suspicion of District Attorney Evans.

"Since we started this investigation we have not had any assistance, nor a single offer of assistance from any fire insurance company," said Mr. Robison. "Worse than that, they were very reluctant to give us information which they had in their possession."

"After one of these incendiary fires some insurance adjuster secured a confession from the man who set it. We wanted that confession for use in the investigation. Although they had it right in their office, it took two weeks to get it, and then we got a copy and not the original."

"Yesterday the insurance companies locked the door after the houses were stolen by taking the insurance off Mrs. Currier's home at 312 East Forty-first street."

Q.-W. R. & N. AGENT BACK

H. E. LOUNSBURY REPORTS ON RATE SESSIONS IN CHICAGO.

Crops Near Chicago Reported Good and Business Generally Improving—Reductions in Effect Soon.

H. E. Lounsbury, general freight agent for the G. V. W. & N. Company, returned yesterday from Chicago, where for the last six months he has been attending the sessions of the Transcontinental Freight Bureau engaged in reducing the westbound commodity rates.

The entire westbound schedule was considered and revised, reports Mr. Lounsbury, and the new rates, which are intended to offer the railroad an opportunity of competing with the Panama Canal traffic, will go into effect some time before the first of the year.

Substantial reductions will be made, he says, in many commodities. The detailed tariffs will be printed and returned by the Interstate Commerce Commission within the next few weeks. They must stay on file with the Commission for 30 days before they become effective.

that they contracted their Bartlett pears to canneries for \$20 a ton. "I have never seen a greater demand for Bartlett's," says Wilmer Steg, sales manager of the Apple Growers' Association. "I have received calls for 10 carloads in the past week, and I cannot begin to find the fruit to fill the orders. If we had the pears now we could get \$35 a ton for them."

Mr. Steg says that the apple crop, according to reports from Sam J. Campbell, chief inspector of the Association, will be of excellent quality. The worries of fungus of the early season have passed, the recent warm, dry days having killed much of the fungus growth.

The Association members are harvesting Kinga pears, which are going forward as rapidly as picked and packed.

NATIVE OF NORTH CAROLINA DIES HERE AT 94 YEARS.



Jesse Lee Colburn.

At the age of 94 years, Jesse Lee Colburn died at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. S. P. Anderson, 565 Gantenbein avenue, Sunday night. Death was due to advanced age. His two surviving sons, George and Charles Colburn, and his daughter were with him at the end.

Mr. Colburn was born in North Carolina. Since his wife died, 12 years ago, he made his home with his son, Charles, at White Salmon, Wash., until less than a year ago, when he came to Portland to reside with his daughter.

Interment will be in White Salmon. Six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren survive.

to fill the 20 carload contract for South American markets. A carload of Gravenstein, for Alaska trade, has been sold.

PRINTERS TO GIVE PLAY

"TAPPING AT THE DOOR" DEALS WITH BUSINESS ESSENTIALS.

Production of Drama in Many States of Northwest Is Marked by Success. Comedy Included.

A business play, showing business failures and telling the reason why men fail, is "The Tapping at the Door," which is being staged by 27 Portland printers at the Baker Theater Thursday night, September 2.

The play was written and is being staged in Portland by Walter A. Wilkins, of Seattle, and under the auspices of the Ben Franklin Club of this city. The fact that organization among business men is necessary to their success commercially is the moral which Mr. Wilkins tries to point out in his drama.

Also, he illustrates the quotation that "It takes the combined efforts of 20 constructive workers to clean up the dirt after one mud-slinging knocker." Comedy is furnished chiefly by Mose, the office boy, who tries to tell his boss how to run his business. Brown, the plodder; Hines, the knocker, and Watson, the wide-awake salesman who knows business, are the three principal characters around which the story revolves. Mrs. Brown also comes into the story in a section where the orchestra plays a certain kind of soft music, and the audience sits in quiet.

Already Mr. Wilkins has produced his drama in many Western cities, and everywhere it is reported to have scored successes and the attention of the Portland it will be taken East of the Cascades and produced under the auspices of some of the printers' organizations in the larger cities there.

BIG LAND DEAL IS MADE

L. GERLINGER ACQUIRES \$50,000 WASHINGTON RANCH.

Timber, Portland Realty and Cash Paid for 700 Acres to Be Devoted to Model Dairy.

Through a deal involving between \$50,000 and \$90,000 in real and personal property, completed yesterday, E. N. Steele transferred to L. Gerlinger his 760-acre ranch near Washougal, in Clark County, Washington, and acquired valuable properties in Portland and timber land in Benton and Josephine counties.

Mr. Gerlinger plans to develop on the newly-acquired property a model stock and dairy farm, which he purposes to establish one of the finest herds of blooded dairy cattle in the Northwest. Plans for the improvement of the farm for this purpose are already under way and construction will be commenced almost immediately on barns, bungalows, silos and some of the Gerlinger timber holdings in Benton and Josephine counties.

Besides this lot, Mr. Steele received four corner lots in Southeastern Portland and some of the Gerlinger timber holdings in Benton and Josephine counties.

Port Angeles Has Tragedy.

PORT ANGELES, Wash., Aug. 26.—John M. Gillespie, graduate of Princeton, Spanish-American War veteran and son of a prominent Chicago attorney, shot and killed his wife and himself last night. Mrs. Gillespie, member of an old family here, had sued for divorce because of Gillespie's alleged intemperance. The couple leave two small children.

Wholesale telegraph wires are propagated along the surface of the earth with a velocity slightly less than 150,000 miles an hour.

Last Days of Our Removal Sale!

All CHARGE PURCHASES Made Here Today Will Be Entered on September Accounts and Are Made Payable October First.

Meier & Frank Co.

Established 1867

THE QUALITY STORE OF PORTLAND

Fifth, Sixth, Morrison, Alder Sts.

Stationery and Office Supplies Are at Reduced Prices—Buy Now!

Closing Out Many Lines—In New Location

25c Memo Books, black leather, side and end opening	19c	\$1.00 Ledgers and Journals, 200 pages in each	81c
30c Memo Books, black leather cover, variety rulings	22c	35c Box Letter Files, good grade, each	23c
40c Memo Books, black leather cover, variety rulings	29c	40c Boxes Business Envelopes, 6 1/2 and 7-in., 10 pkgs. in box	34c
25c Ledgers, Journals, Record and Day Books, each	19c	\$1.25 Berkshire Bond Typewriter Paper, 8 1/2 x 13, 500 sheets	97c
60c Ledgers and Journals, 200 pages in each	53c	\$2.25 Berkshire Linen Typewriter Paper, 8 1/2 x 13, 500 sheets	\$1.98

—First Floor, New Building

Portland Is Fortunate

in that we could arrange this series of

Cookery Talks and Demonstrations by Mrs. Sarah Tyson Rorer

on her trip to the Pacific Coast. She is the author of the well-known Mrs. Rorer's Cook Books and is considered America's greatest authority on cooking in a practical and economical way. She will explain the easiest and best manner of preparing any desired meal.

Lectures All This Week (Saturday Excepted)---Today's Talk on

Meats, with special attention to using the cheaper cuts; white fricassee of chicken, brown stew of beef, camelot, veal olives, ham Honolulu fashion.

Lectures at 3 o'Clock in Our Music Room, 6th Floor, New Bldg. Baking in the New PYREX Glass Utensils

In conjunction with Mrs. Rorer's lectures, we shall introduce to the housekeepers of Portland the new PYREX GLASS BAKING DISHES which have the indorsement of Mrs. Rorer and other high authorities on cooking. We feel you will be interested in hearing explained the many advantages of this new departure. Complete stocks of these glass utensils will be found in our Glassware Section, Annex, Fourth Floor, so those desiring to purchase may do so. Prices are very reasonable.

This Men's New Silk Neckwear Ought to Sell Out in a Single Day--Regularly 50c, Today 35c or 3 for \$1.00

The heading of this advertisement was contributed by our Men's Neckwear Department. The fact that we have used it indicates that it has our hearty indorsement. This neckwear ought to sell out in a day, and would sell out in an hour if we could actually put this neckwear before your eyes right now as you read this over. It's the best neckwear offering ever made at the beginning of the season.

An exceptionally large assortment of patterns, including all the new striped and figured effects. A new and very convenient feature is the "Slip-Easy Band," which does away with tie-pulling troubles. Literally thousands of colors and combinations to select from in this wonderful assortment of Ties at this wonderfully low price—three for \$1.00; each, 35c.

—Temporary Annex, Main Floor.

Hosiery Section--Moved!

Now Located in Temporary Quarters on the Main Floor of the New Building

Here's a Big Cleanup of Odds and Ends for Women and Children--Buy Today!

Moving discloses many small lots and odds and ends in stock. This is the merchandise that is so lowly priced today—because we want stocks complete and whole when we are finally located in our permanent quarters. Make your selections NOW—the following groups contain many BARGAINS!

Women's Pure Silk Hose Usually \$1, Now 69c	Extra Size Cotton Hose Regularly 50c, Now 39c
Pure thread silk, black only—a Hose of quality, name not mentioned. Silk lisle tops, double soles.	Two pairs, 75c. Fine soft cotton. Black only, with mace split sole. Our own importation. All sizes.
Women's "Burson" Hose Were 50c, Now, Pr., 38c	Extra Size "Burson" Hose Special, the Pair, at 18c
Burson's famous seamless Lisle Hose; Black only. Extra reinforced tops. Feet shaped to fit. Two pairs for 75c.	Medium-weight cotton, with ribbed tops. Black only. Sizes 8 1/2 to 10 1/2.
Women's Odd 35c-50c Hose, Pair, 23c	Children's Lisle Socks Usually 25c, Now 19c
Plain and silk lises in black and colors; also fiber silk-Boot Hose, in colors only. Priced to clear up the stock, pair, 23c.	Imported lisle. White, with checked tops, in pink, black and blue. Full fashioned. All sizes.
Women's Silk Lisle Hose Regularly 50c, Now 37c	Children's English Lisle Hose Regularly 25c, Now, Pair 20c
Two pairs, 70c. Imported black silk lisle, double welt, lavender tipped. High splittings. Double soles. All sizes.	Three pairs, 55c. Fine English lisle. Black, white and tan. Linen heels and toes, seamless feet.
Women's Extra Size Hose Regularly 50c, Now 42c	Women's Kayser Pure Silk Thread Hose, the Pair, 98c
The "Alta" brand. Black silk lisle. Double garter welts. Sizes 8 1/2 to 10 1/2.	Black and tan shades. Have double silk tops and lisle split soles.

Temporary Location, New Bldg., Main Floor.

Wirthmor Waists Today--\$1

New Models for Fall With Values Even More Remarkable Than in the Past!

Many women have bought generously of the Wirthmor Waists the past season—for they have found them to be eminently satisfactory. The popularity of these waists is growing day by day, as more people are continually learning of their unusual excellence and exceptional worth.

There's a simplicity, a charm, an appeal about these new Fall models that's going to win the favor of all who see them—and that they'll sell most readily is a foregone conclusion.

Models here illustrated will be shown for the first time today.

As always One Dollar As always Worth More

—Fourth Floor, Sixth-St. Bldg.

A Great Cleanup of Infants' Garments in New Location

All Needs, From Caps to Robes, Reduced

Must dispose of them at once, for we want to stock the new department with new goods—hence this big sacrifice of prices, but not of quality, which is of the best.

Lawn Caps, tucked or hemstitched, regularly 50c, cleanup price... 19c	Shirts, cotton gauze, round neck, half sleeves, etc., were 25c, 35c, at... 10c
Lawn Caps, tucked and lace trimmed, regularly \$1.00, cleanup price... 49c	Shirts, cotton and wool, high neck, long sleeves, were 70c, now... 27c
Lawn Caps, hand-tucked, emb. and lace trimmed, were \$1.75, now... 79c	Soft-Sole Shoes and White Pique Slippers, 0 to 3, were 50c, now... 19c
Lawn Caps, hand-tucked, emb. and lace trimmed, were \$3, now... \$1.19	Soft-Sole Shoes, with colored satin tops, were \$1.00, now, pair... 69c
Short Pique Coats, hand-embroidered, regularly \$7.50, now at... \$3.75	Kleinert's Pants, double texture, regularly 50c, cleanup at... 29c
Short Pique Coats, hand-embroidered, regularly \$4.50, now at... \$2.25	Kleinert's Pants, silk rubber, regularly 75c for cleanup at... 39c
Short Cassimere Coats, hand-embroidered, regularly \$5.50, now... \$2.75	Checked Rubber Aprons, pink and blue, regularly 35c, cleanup... 19c
Boggy Robes, fancy striped, few pieces, regularly \$1.50, \$1.25, at... 97c	Padded Robes, brocade, matelasse and mull, were \$3 to \$10. \$1.20 to \$4.98
Fleece Lined Slumber Socks, white, pink, blue, were 20c, now at... 10c	

—Second Floor, Sixth-St. Bldg.

Royal Banquet Flour

Sack for \$1.49

Milled from all Old Wheat

Makes better bread than flour milled from new wheat. Sack, \$1.49.

10 LB. SACKS SUGAR 67c	SHOULDER HAMS 11c
----------------------------------	-----------------------------

Berry Sugar, packed at the refinery. Sold at a slight advance over sack prices. While any remains.

Sugar-cured quality. Well smoked and closely trimmed, medium-weight Hams. At this price, the pound.

—Pure Food Grocery, Basement, Sixth-St. Bldg.

Meat Safes That Were \$1.25 for 79c---Were \$1.50 for 99c

Save ice bills—use a fly-proof meat safe during the cool Fall and Winter months. 1-shelf safe, 79c; 2-shelf, 99c.

These we are offering at such splendid reductions are: Fly-proof, open on all sides, front swinging door. Well constructed, of wire and wood, very durable.

—Temporary Annex, Third Floor

COLUMBIA HIGHWAY TRIP SEPT. 6—TICKETS ON SALE AT ACCOMMODATION DESK

"STARS" TO MAKE FILM

Pantages Company to Appear in Play on Street Today.

If you should see Charlie Chaplin falling off the top of the Eilers building today, or little Mary Pickford caught under a huge piano and rescued in the nick of time by Fatty Arbuckle, who has been flirting with Blanche Sweet on the nearby corner of Pantages Theater, don't be surprised.

Nothing more alarming is occurring than the making of a new film by the "Stars of the Movies," who are at Pantages Theater this week.

This clever company is impersonating on the stage noted picture stars. At 1:30 o'clock the making of the reel will start. A large crowd is required to make the setting of the play complete, as pictures of hundreds of faces will be taken to make the film realistic and lifelike.

Seattle Sun Again Ends Publication

SEATTLE, Wash., Aug. 30.—The Seattle Evening Sun, which after suspension of several months, resumed publication four months ago, the employees having obtained possession of the plant by means of labor claims, again ceased publication today, and a trustee was appointed to wind up the affairs of the paper.

BUILDING PLANS - READY

Work on East Side Club Home to Start Soon.

Plans for the new Citizens Bank and the clubhouse of the East Side Business Men's Club will be completed this week, according to L. M. Lepper, secretary of the East Side Holding Company. The holding company, he said, will meet as soon as the details of the plans are completed and let the contractor for the foundation of the clubhouse. The two-story structure will cost about \$70,000.

Camp & DuPuy are completing the plans for a building for Glafka & Son at East Alder and East Third streets at a cost of \$20,000.

30-YEAR MUSTACHE SHORN

Veteran City Hall Elevator Operator Bolsters Courage and Shaves.

For the first time in 30 years, James Backenstos, veteran elevator operator at the City Hall, yesterday saw his upper lip shaved off a long mustache which he had worn since 1885.

"It took lots of meditation and courage," he explained yesterday. "It took ever more than it did 30 years ago when I decided for the first time to cultivate it."

Riley Bradford, of Friendship, Me., has the oldest continuous subscription to a Portland paper. This subscription has been in the Bradford family ever since the paper was first issued in 1858.

HORLICK'S

The Original MALTED MILK

Unless you say "HORLICK'S" you may get a substitute.